

Boston Rocks 1.65 }
Captains Chair 1.65 } pg. 6

Denish drummer
pg. 6 1.95

DOLL TALK

FOR
COLLECTORS

Volume 10, Number 5

March - April, 1954

MADRILENA MIA

Doll Talk is always completely devoted to dolls and to us who love them. Before we introduce 10" tall "Madrilena," it will be fun to tell you where this bit of copy is being written, on January 19, 1954. Above a Spanish crest on the hotel stationery is "Balneario," and below the location, De San Jose Purua, the State is Michoacan, Mexico. Hidden away from the main highways, built on one of the mountains that surround it, is a fairyland spa with pools, terraced gardens, a canyon almost comparable to the Grand one of the Colorado, and an unbelievable waterfall that tumbles straight down the opposite cliffs from high tableland and sheer blue sky!

How can we afford such tropical opulence in mid-winter?

"Could be that it's less expensive than hospitals! Besides, do you want to know how many pesos it costs for double room with its balcony overlooking great mountains all farmed by peons, for wonderful meals, even mineral baths are included—for two it is about \$16.85 per day. We McKims and the Independence,

Missouri friends who brought their son down to Mexico City Art School, speak American. All others, it seems, use the tongue of our doll Madrileña; some guests are Mexicans; many the Europeans who escaped the Iron Curtain's

closing with what movable wealth they could bring to any open-door country. They have had to adopt many languages through the centuries. Here their children speak fluent Spanish.

And now for our new front page doll—from old Spain, not Mexico, is a flashing little beauty, the likes of which we have long tried to bring you at a reasonable price. Usually the slender doll ladies of Spain in its beautiful native dress, were so expensive but this dainty *senorita* has everything. She is even durable—as

the cartons in which she sailed the sea looked alarmingly battered, but all the tightly packed beauties needed was a bit of pressing on their flounced frocks. Rich complexioned with a flash of white teeth between carmine lips, blue shadow around tantalizing black eyes, patrician nose and in hand



there's a fan, that could spread to conceal all these charms. The material is some composition and costume correct from her high heeled jet pumps to the rosy hibiscus in her black silky hair. Tiny ribbon is run through beading braid, so there are bows — and fringe, on her scarf. What more could one ask—a stand? That, too, is built in. 10" Spanish Madrilena, No. 1007, \$10.95.

CARLOTTA

Again I'd like to start this story, "Mexico City, January 25, 1954." How information and events do tie in together. A story in today's "Excelsior" blazons the passing of Sargento Manuel de la Rosa, age 114, only survivor of the firing squad that shot Emperor Maximilian. Again, please, let me bubble over in tying this doll story in with our current vacation. Against an ingrained background of loving history and surrounded by a dominant foreground of foreign patterning I should be able to inspire you to hoard your wee pesos in a painted clay piggy bank to acquire the doll—Carlotta!

Yesterday at Chapultepec Castle, I stood long before Carlotta's magnificent life-sized portrait, just as Polly Mann had done, before she departed with pictures and determination to copy in parian the beautiful Austrian Empress of Mexico. In this room, full of Maximiliana, one is flooded with visions and factual memories of this most utterly fantastic chapter in the annals of North America. Only the conjunction of strange world circumstances could have made possible the thought of planting a ruling French court in the

Mexican volcano. But the United States was desperately absorbed in Civil War—Mexico, always rocked by factions, was seeing the ascendancy of the liberal Juarez against Spanish conservatism, the three great European powers were planning with the Pope to send some sort of help and intervention. 'Twas then that tricky little Napoleon III played a quick double cross against his neighbors, Spain and England. Was he not the nephew and as great as THE Napoleon—and was not world conquest possible by now seizing Mexico? Princes without thrones were a dime a dozen; for instance graceful Maximilian boasted good Spanish blood, so troops of France were hastened to the old colonial plateau in Mexico, battles were won against the disunited, and almost two years later, 1864, the young aristocrats arrived to rule.

Here, you can almost live again the set fiestas, fireworks, te deums, feastings. Carlotta's yellowed slippers in one case are tiny beaded satin things that still suggest the tragic steps she took amidst this mock allegiance of a folk who feared and hated. One could look out from the stone balustrade bound terrace, to bleak, breath-taking distances, the smouldering volcano, thick growth of ancient trees, and there were dark skinned aliens all around with whom she could not exchange words.

Last week when viewing Borda Gardens and the ruins of their royal summer home in Cuernavaca, a lone vulture had kept wheeling and gliding high above the famous bathing pool. These ever-present, great black birds had been



another thing that terrified the girl who so had willed to be a queen; perhaps they cast just such shadows on her mind that grew completely clouded.

History swirled 'round the puppet empire like a maelstrom; a victorious northern army meant stabilization and power above the Rio Grande; Prussia was making it imperative for Napoleon to pull all soldiers back to France; Juarez in Mexico had kept a sort of rule from his "black surry" traveling far and near. The gamble had lost, the house of cards toppled and Maximilian the pawn met death before a firing squad in July, '67.

The people of today's Republic Mexico stream through, viewing the fan, the candlesticks and jew-

els, the ivory miniatures and great state portraits of that Pair. They find it fitting, evidently, that the sword and death mask of Juarez are in that gallery. In the carriage house, Carlotta's Cinderella coach and the black surry of Juarez stand side by side.

And so again we turn to dolls to keep old ways, the picturesque dress of peasant folk, gentry and even royalty alive for us and future generations.

Now for the regal parian doll Carlotta, first introduced and pictured in Doll Talk of September, 1952. Designed by Polly Mann who would not give up the idea of a coronet modeled in the same parian and actually part of the doll head. Mrs. Mann achieved this most artistically by fashioning a thin porcelain crown, a jewel studded golden one, atop long, soft brown curls, modeled to come well down over the shoulders, just as they do in the state portrait. Queenly parian arms, legs with flat, luster shoes, add much to the shapely little body. 15" tall, an exclusive, an aristocrat—an opportunity! No. 149E, \$35.00. We do take orders to dress her handsomely, furnishing all materials for \$15.00

THEN DO YOUR OWN

This recipe for modeling material was published in Toy Trader:

1 Cup Flour

½ Cup Salt

3 Teaspoons Alum

Water (½ Cup) to hold. Use water sparingly.

Do not cook. Keep in closed jar and may be colored with vegetable dyes or poster paints.

SPECIAL EXHIBITION OF HISTORIC DOLLS

The Museum of the City of New York sent the following release to Kimport, which we gladly pass along to you.

"A special exhibition of historic dolls entitled 'Parade of Dolls' will open Wednesday, March 10, at the Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Avenue at 103rd to 104th streets, to continue through the summer. Admission is free.

"Over a hundred dolls from the Museum's extensive collection, ranging from the early 19th century to the present, will be shown in gay, "living" scenes. Many of these dolls have never before been on exhibition. Each of the antique ones has been played with by New York children—even to the doll who was taken on the grand tour of Europe and had a special black gown and veil made for her visit to Pope Pius IX in 1865.

"A large doll house of the 1880's forms the background for the show. Driving up in front of the house in their magnificent landau are two china dolls, handsomely dressed as bride and groom. These two dolls were once sold at the Sanitary Fair to raise money for the wounded of the Civil War.

"Other dolls are arranged in scenes: a doll tending her sick baby; a huge bisque doll, wearing the clothes of a two-year-old, has just taken her infant from its iron crib; an elegant dinner party is in progress, the male guests dressed in their Brooks Brothers 7th Regiment uniforms. Another scene shows gaily dressed little girl dolls dancing around a Maypole;

a doll of the 1870's, looking very confused, is buying a pair of shoes. One set shows a doll busily ironing while her mistress stands over a coal range preparing a meal.

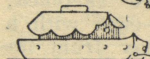
"Dolls of all shapes, sizes and kinds, from those of papier-mache of the early 19th century to our most modern ones of today, are promenading on a ramp around the house. The modern dolls have been generously given to the Museum by present-day manufacturers and toy shops so that this age may be as well represented as the past for future generations of Museum visitors. Other dolls of the early 1900's are happily playing with their tiny toys. In another setting are two dolls, one of the 1860's, the other of about 1900, both extremely busy packing their trunks to go off on a vacation. Clothes of the period are strewn over the furniture as they go about their arduous tasks.

"In 'Parade of Dolls,' not only will the quaint and colorful dolls themselves have a direct appeal for all children, but also the enlivened settings will recall the past with pleasant nostalgia for those of all ages."

DO YOU KNOW—

That the Webber doll, patented 1882, was the first American musical one? It was made in Medford, Massachusetts. A small organ imbedded in the chest was played by pressing the body in and out.

LATE ARRIVALS



Some really new, some fresh versions of old favorites—it is always fascinating to see what next is being unpacked. Marlina from Spain was lifted out this time for front page introduction. She is a flashing little beauty, but then the new girls finally in from India have charms, too, although the dark eyes of Ameera are in complete eclipse as suggested in the sketch.



Yes, her pedigree page tells about the rigid old Mohammedan custom of purdah. The man sketched is a bridegroom, and there is another man in this lot also, the Raja. Both of these gentlemen are brave

with tinsel braid on bright hued cloth, with beads, earrings and swords! Little Rani, high caste Hindu, is allowed to flaunt her beauty and her finery, as explained on her story or "pedigree" page. All are 8 to 9 inches in size, brown cloth dolls with painted mask faces, black floss hair, completely hand-made, even to their funny little thread wrapped fingers. Raja, No. 671, Rani, No. 672B, Bridegroom, No. 672C, and Purdah woman, 673B, are \$2.95 each.



Before Christmas we mentioned the shipment of dolls that had come in from South Korea. They are so distinctively Korean in cast of features, in materials, and in fashioning their thin silk garments so exactly like their real costumes.

It is such a pleasure to find thoroughly satisfying collection dolls like these! The gentleman sketched wears a dove gray cloak over white, and that famed fly cage hat which is a silly horsehair black topper above a skull cap of the same black. His sparse beard and long-nose pipe are also "trademarks." Pretty mother and child are clad in multicolor silks and feature one other utterly different thing, the Korean bow, a knot which baffles all the rest of Christendom.

There is a traditional bride and groom also in this series. Had a wedding pair from India, too; it might as well be June!

No. 551B—10" Bride.....\$12.50

No. 551C—10½" Groom.....\$12.50

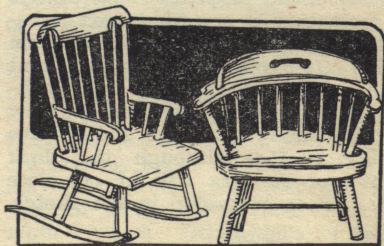
No. 551A—10" Mother.....\$12.50

No. 551—10¾" Gentleman.....\$12.50

That's all freshly in from the Orient, but you might be smart to include a dollar for "Minnie Etsu," quality child from Japan. Only 2 inches tall, but precious in the gayest of silk kimonos, brocade obi; black bobbed wig and inset eyes. No. 801, \$1.00 postpaid.

From Europe comes another, not quite so tiny, but still excellent for the collector of authentic foreign dolls who likes them small. He is "Holger," the Danish Guard; his pedigree page explains why that fine, Scandinavian name. To the top of that real fur shako he stands good 5 inches, and stands firmly, too, as his shiny black feet

are heavy metal. Red coat, blue trousers, both white braid trimmed, this new shipment is much better than the little guard sketched; these are drummers—each with a red and white pill box drum inscribed "Denmark." No. 967—\$1.95.



You liked our set of doll furniture so much that we took a suggestion from someone, that even more classic design chairs would be highly acceptable. What comfy, period chairs these two turned out to be! Seats are 2½ inches up, about 3 wide, and backs a little over 6 and 4 inches up. Beautifully hand-made, dull maple finish.

No. 36B—Boston Rocker.....\$1.65

No. 36C—Captain's Chair.....\$1.65

The four-piece set, mentioned above, is a settle, one straight chair, one rocker, and an oval, four legged cricket. Same sizes. All nice with dolls from 8 to 10 inches; surprisingly low priced.

No. 36X—4 Piece Set.....\$3.95

DO YOU KNOW—

That "talking, walking, dancing, crying and sleeping dolls" were all mentioned as available in 1869.



PLUS BUSY HANDS

You've all known some folk who "sets an' thinks or then agin', just sets?" It is taken for granted yo'all enjoy dolls if you read Doll Talk; well, some of us like dolls and again some of us do something about it.

When Mrs. Greville Bathe returned that little Kimport questionnaire, after "number of dolls owned" was a neat 1500! Her's definitely is one of the most comprehensive collections we have ever seen. It shows fine selectivity but on a broad-minded basis like "charity for all," rare antiques, and dear but more ordinary ones, hundreds of foreign folk, miniatures, dolls with stories, examples of American doll artists' work, Indians—each a well-rounded collection in itself. Doll houses, rooms of beautifully matched furniture and hundreds more tiny things to fit therein, fill up one upstairs sun-room, and that brings us up to the current project in really fine art, of their creative owner.

Dorothy Bathe had made hand-wrought jewelry, so silversmithing was a craft of which she was a mistress. Why not a set of doll furnishings in solid silver?—but this from a recent letter reports, first-hand, her progress:

"My silver bedroom set is coming on apace. I have finished the bed, bookcase with books, dressing table with tray, powder box, a pair of twisted candlesticks, three chairs of different types, and a table. Also an ornamental fire-screen and a Recamier lounge. From a lady in Miami who handles miniatures, I got four lovely little goblets. I've almost all I need for the room now except a footstool, a chest and a rug (which I shall make of very

light gauge silver). Of course Mme. Rubenstein's little silver room is furnished with furniture which is much more intricate than mine, being mostly filigree work which is 'beyond my capability.' And we say, it's even a privilege to know such a person. She is not blessed with robust health, but with a dauntless spirit, imagination, and the divine urge to do.



Q. When was Rose O'Neil's first Kewpie copyrighted?

A. 1909. I read someplace that some five million were made in Germany. Originals, especially odd poses, are real collector items.

Q. Since Doll Talk is new to me, I would like to clarify one thing. Is it possible to order from recent back issues or is it just the latest one we order from?

A. Most dolls can be ordered from listings that are many months old. That applies to regular stock, not antiques, of course, or others listed as samples or specials. Things do happen to sources, but when possible we re-order from good doll makers for years and years.

A Q—P.S.

After quite a pa'cel of questions; one sweet young collector wrote—"Sorry to cause you so much trouble"—To which we replied, "Shucks, Honey, by the time you're a grandmother, you'll know the difference between 'trouble' and 'bother,' and besides, your interest is plumb pleasure!"

THE LADY—THE GENTLEMAN

There is an English publication of long standing called "The Lady." Last summer our delightful London friend and antique "scout" sent us the July 16, 1953, issue in which there was a story of a man—"The Man Who Loves Dolls."

You who love the old and choice would gloat over the illustrations—I picked up my magnifying glass at once. "An enchanting Lilliputian World" reads one caption and for the prim yet ornate Victorian rooms full of proper little people, that slightly stuffy title seems just right. Such ladies and gentlemen, such maids and men servants! And then there was "Jane" of whom the Master talked most solicitously to Miss Dennis-Earle who was giving the interview:

"Jane has jaundice. She is sitting up in her dressing-gown," he said softly. 'But she's a shocking colour; not at all well.'

"Then he opened the door of a tiny house about three feet square. Sure enough, there, in a minute bedroom, looking decidedly yellow, sat Jane: ancient and wooden and about three inches high!

"She is quite well looked after," he assured me. "The cook and the housemaid are most capable and kind."

They were in the doll's house kitchen at the time apparently gossiping over a cup of tea which was well earned, I gathered, for there were several people in the household to cook for and several rooms to clean. And what a lot of dusting of wonderfully precious things!

"But there are very few break-ages. Maria takes immense care," he assured me. Maria looked most conscientious, buxom and grave in traditional black with starched cap and apron: a good old-fashioned, reliable soul. I noticed the candles with half-inch snuffers which really snuffed, the four and a half inch piano which actually played, a work-table with reels of cotton the size of a pea (and, indeed, a complete sewing set in a walnut) . . . and I was thinking of Dolores Denison whose lovely Georgian house was burnt to the ground, so she set to work and made a replica in miniature, complete with contents . . . and thinking, too, of that most elaborate and remarkable of all—the Queen's Doll House now at Windsor.

HIGH FLYER

When Elvy Kälep, first aviatrix of Esthonia, came over here in 1932, she had in mind to be the first woman to fly the Atlantic. Amelia Earhart made that history, and also she wrote the foreword for Miss Kalip's book, "Air Babies."

In 1939, this ambitious young lady made a doll from one of the airborne characters of her book—"Pat Parachute," who became a popular toy, the first of the parachute dolls.

Later, in 1946, she originated Scribbles in boy, girl and clown dress, entirely of vinyl plastic. The idea of that doll was a blank face, and crayons, with which one could design and re-design a hundred faces.

We haven't heard since that just where her ambition and creative urges have led Elvy Kalip since that one.

STONE DOLL SURVIVOR

The Museo Nacional, Mexico City, is undoubtedly one of the finest archaeological museums in the world. There are ever so many doll sized figures here—Aztec, Toltec, Mayan, and in one case we happily spotted a real doll. It is stone, with slightly grotesque head and torso in one piece; the separate arms and legs, made to string through with thong and fasten over tiny pegs that looked like bone, are snugly fitted to its body contour which is very like our own all bisque with joints. The date? Oh, pre-Aztec, maybe 12th Century.

THE AMERICAN WAY

Margaret E. Johnson passes along a couple of reasons as to why she orders things from Kimport, but let's do this story in a quote from a letter on their "Seaview Farm, Antiques" stationery:

"For years I've known Margaret Bohaker and her collection and every time we go north, we always stop to see her and her dolls. Never thought, however, that I'd become a doll addict.

"On April 20, 1951, we took into our home a D. P. Lithuanian girl 14 years old. Seven years she had been in a prisoner of war and concentration camp and finally a D. P. camp. By accident one day we found she had never had a doll, so you know we went to work. Living with us, who are antique minded, she has decided to sell some of her not-so-old dolls, then put her money into good older ones and perhaps start a collection of foreign dolls.

"We are open to any suggestion from you as to the best way to do this."

"GRAN" — NEW COLLECTOR



Our children used to say 'grand-new' instead of brand new; it does have a more appreciative sound. So when the

Christmas I-Wants were assembled this last time, our Christina Fullerton, grandchild No. One, pleased us mightily by wanting to start a real collection. These may be kept in a cabinet or on a shelf, taken to school for sharing, but not combed and brushed and undressed to trade clothing with members of the play family. Ah, there's the difference. On a card that came with Christina's Christmas five foreigns was printed—

"Our customers should well be told That when a girl turns nine years old

She tires of toy-type fol-de-rols And sets her heart on Kimport Dolls."

IN UNIFORM

Thirty years ago, an international encampment of Girl Scouts was held at Camp Edith Macy, near Milton, Massachusetts. Each country represented offered to send back to the organization a doll dressed in the Girl Scout uniform of her country. This collection of twenty dolls has been kept at the State Headquarters in Boston and has been displayed on various occasions.

SPEAKING ANTIQUE

Last Christmas time the antiques offered were all religious ones, from Creche groups of fine singles of ivory, terra cotta, wood and wax. All were sold and there were inquiries for others, for truly these intriguing ones, always



rich in personal history, are treasures in any collection. Two only were left at Kimport, and they only because they were in "sacred" lay-away, awaiting an answer that did not come. They are excellent ones, the two pictured, "Young Nobleman" has a terra cotta head with inset eyes and replacement hands carved of walnut. He is 10 inches tall, No. A506, \$42.50.

The beautiful lady's head is also terra cotta with a crimson band

and gilt ornament modeled into her interesting hair. Inset eyes, original wood hands in excellent condition; she is richly dressed in crimson velvet and pale orchid satin, made on an old 18 inch loom. Larger, 13½ inches tall, No. A950, \$55.00.

We had hoped to find a few old Spanish church dolls on our Mexican trip, and "few" is right! For one thing their government prohibits taking examples of really old Mexican arts out of the country. Some pre-conquest stone, miniature figures could have been bought, but not brought. One that is very old, was ticketed at the Government Pawn Shop (Nacional Monte de Piedad) as 17th century ivory and was all right to transport being of Chinese origin. This is a delightful little gentleman with the famed "nodding" head and a soup bowl hair cut. Doubtless the barber used a rice bowl, back at the time of our Pilgrim Fathers! Kimono is beautifully patterned in leaf design; closed ivory umbrella in one hand—something ivory in the other. Height, 5¼ inches, No. A167, \$40.00.

Back to the religious ones, our only other purchase at the National Pawn Shop was a truly lovely child, a woodcarved one of the young Saint John. Eight inches tall, Spanish, circa 1800. Chubby and appealing with inset eyes in splendid condition with the exception of some little chipped fingers. No. A159, \$32.50.

Then there are three other very old Spanish woodcarved Santos, all small and all minus their

hands, but still collector items rich in history. Santa Rosa de Lima, so the owner of a small antique shop confided, was most active in eliminating heresy, and, bless you, there is the head of a heretic under one of her sanctified feet! How times change—or do they? Anyway, Santa Rosa is an angelic faced little figurine in brown and ivory and gold, 6 inch size, circa 1700, No. A158, \$25.00.

The others are almost miniature, a pair of St. Joseph and the Virgin in 4 inch size. They are so dignified in a dainty, small featured way, beautifully carved and richly colored, each on its square based pedestal. Circa 1750, No. A157, \$27.50 for the two. (Minus hands, you know).

There is one other antique ivory figurine in the Kimport vault, an exquisitely carved "St. Louis." This 7 inch portrait of Crusader Louis IX looks ever so French with its intricate carving of armor and surplice; there are more than twenty carved fleur-de-lis on his shield. He's ever so king-ly, too, slender and straight with a regal circlet to bind the curled hair, slim fingers and feet—on a base. This is a very old carving, late 16th or early 17th century work. Mended expertly at an ankle, No. A51, Sp. \$87.50.

And now, as Alex Dreier says, "Under special heading—Part II." In contrast to our formal, ancient treasures of Church and State, we will present a parade of antique dolls that looked the most like Easter.

Yes, looking over the assembled

array, there was one fabulous lady whose attire does the rare thing of attracting attention ahead of the doll. A 22 inch English wax, who had "belonged to gentry," her yellow silk dress is lavishly trimmed with the most exquisite old rosepoint lace that could ever be found outside a museum. There are great ruffles of this antique lace on the sleeves, little panels down the front and up over the shoulders, as well as a bonnet. It is yellowed with age and truly the finest lace I ever saw, about 3 inches wide; hand embroidered petticoat and drawers with an inner petticoat that is quilted, making it all stand out like hoops; also old pearls strung together on a chain, and adorable, original, laced shoes of pink morocco. The doll itself has yellow gold wig and rather flat glass eyes of azure blue. There are some check cracks in the wax due to age; cheeks are a beautiful shade of rose; ball type composition head; circa 1830's. She came through duty free, on account of the dating. She is No. A140, price, \$150.00.

Big, beautiful and all dressed up for Sunday, is a 26 inch wax child—75 years old, but looking fresh as Easter morning. Her waxed complexion is flawlessly creamy and pink; she has big bright blue eyes, ash blonde curls under a fetching bonnet, and plump shoulders. Her waxed limbs are perfect, the legs extra nice with scarlet boots, gartered ivory socks, and flesh pink knees above. We did have her white madras frock laundered. It is drop shouldered, long waisted with a sash,

and flounced with two pleated ruffles; all trimmed with handsome old embroidery that looks almost hand done. Tag says, "chip off of one shoulder," but who would know. She is "pretty as a doll," all finest quality, although so large. No. A132, \$75.00.

Another large one, that is, a little over 20 inches, is a Kate Greenaway child with parian head stamped "Germany" inside. The eyes are sculptured and it is of exquisite texture. To mention her flaw first, this doll also has a chip off of one shoulder, but since that is again under a kid body, no one need know. White parian arms match the head, and she wears a cute old, turkey red, Mother Hubbard style dress with little buttons and fullness below the yoke and trimmed only with narrow braid yellowed with age. We added a Kate Greenaway bonnet. No. A823, Sp. \$55.00.

Next, a big old Armand Marseille, who looks "ordinary" to me because she's the bisque headed, kid bodied kind that I mothered. Twenty-one inches tall, sleeping gray eyes, brown wig. Her Easter outfit looks like some loving growing-up girl had made a project of the silk shirting dress and purple velvet coat and bonnet. The black cotton stockings and No. 4 shoes with heels are nice. Perfect dimpled arms; jointed white body is imitation leather. No. A70, Sp. \$16.95.

There's a beautiful cute size bisque, wood and composition coming next. She has sleeping dark brown eyes with lashes lines around, a dimple, and tiny bisque

teeth. Earrings in her shapely ears that are pierced front to back. Smooth, swivel bisque head with original light brown wig, jointed body all perfect and original. Deep coral silk with the finest of antique black lace for her frock, horsehair braid bonnet, red slippers. Only 11½ inches; circa 1895, No. A946, \$23.50.

Brown eyed Schoenhut with human hair bobbed wig is ever so prim in her starched, oldfashioned dimity with hand-run tucks, embroidery edging and an antique sprig print sash. This old beige background ribbon is exactly the tint of her cotton socks, and oh yes, there's a blue ribbon hat with pink and blue posies, all sweetly becoming. One thumb broken, otherwise perfect; 19 inch size, No. A104, \$30.00.

No bonnet head doll could look more like spring than this 11 inch blonde, whose long curls are framed under a lime green shirred hat with a bittersweet bow, top brim. All perfect with original white bisque limbs; ribbed stockings and glazed brown slippers. Her costume is also perfect; lime green chiffon, bouffant over antique embroidery underthings; her bodice is ornate with soft lace and touches of bittersweet velvet, colors that exactly match the hues of her china hat. She'd really be "Spring" about 1885. No. A128, \$28.00.

DO YOU KNOW—

That Fashion dolls were sent out from Venice in the early 14th century?

DOLL TALK

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for two years.

Address:

KIMPORT DOLLS
Independence, Mo.

silly, perhaps—adult women playing with paper dolls. But there's history there; authentic data of costume styling, hair dressing, even activities of many periods and of many countries. There are various architectural designs, both early and late, in these cardboard structures, each with its own appeal. Publishers went all out to give color and realism to the simplest of the early specimens. Fortunate indeed are the possessors of one or more of the comparatively few surviving specimens."

The twelve chapters here listed give one an idea of the material assembled:

- A Doll House to Make.
- Early Paper Houses
- McLoughlin Brothers Catalog 1875-76
- McLoughlin Brothers "Pretty Villages"
- Houses of the Gay Nineties
- Paper Furniture to Make
- Doll House Furnishings
- Miniature Theatres
- Advertising Novelties
- Contemporary Collectibles
- New Fold-Away Toy Books
- A Homemade Doll House

Since Miss Howard's findings are so highly specialized, being restricted to houses and some kindred paper toys and dolls, her book is not an "indispensable" to all doll collectors. It is rather a lucky addition to the information of any and all who collect those first loves of our little girlhood, lovable, playable paper dolls.

Price is \$3.00. Kimport will be glad to forward any orders.



"HOMES FOR PAPER DOLLS"

That is the title of the latest dollyfied volume, a handsomely got out paper bound by Marian B. Howard, Florida, who has long been a specialist in the paper doll field. In it she fills 38 pages with as many illustrations and clear-cut data on the subject of those very special doll houses "Homes for Paper Dolls." Miss Howard says, "The purpose of this brochure is to describe in simple language, the paper houses and toys in my own collection, and others of which I have definitive knowledge. It is by no means an exhaustive work on the subject; no one writer or collector could have detailed data on all paper toys produced through the years, but each descriptive work adds to our information. We start our collecting with paper dolls, trivial seeming little figures cut from paper, and we feel a bit

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"When I entertained my chapter of the National Story League, I used my dolls for decoration. I had them on the wide white mantel in the living room, in the center of the dining room table and in various other places upstairs and down. Everyone was so interested and thought they were the nicest decorations anyone could have." —Hazel Richards, Ohio.

"If you will send me the address of Mrs. Vinnie Hoover, your 81 year old who has just started to collect Paper Dolls, I'd like to send her a set of V.P.D. 1943 to help her on with her collection. Youthful enthusiasm is right, and do keep up your wonderful Doll Talk!"

—Florence Wasserman, N. J.

"I am thrilled with the idea of a hold box and will think of it as my treasure box. Thanks, for this opportunity of saving dolls for me that I couldn't possibly buy all at once."

—Mrs. Charles Miller, Nebr.

"I've been busy fixing up my doll room here at Sleepy Hollow; have quite a large one with plenty of cabinets, and the dolls do seem 'happier' out of their boxes!"

—Allie Vigneault, California.

"I am so glad a friend told me about Doll Talk, for you have the cutest odd material dolls and I want to keep on getting some of them, from time to time."

—Marie France, Penna.

"You mention people who are three score and ten as 'remarkable.' But you never mention four score and—? If we are not recognized, your magazine might be considered juvenile!"

—Mary Weidman, W. Va.

"I'm ready to join the Doll of the Month Club and find my youngest son used the form for his art creations. I could fill in between a face and a house, but guess I'd better give you the information on a fresh sheet."

—Mrs. Mae Underwood, Ill.

"Guess the current coffee prices got mixed into my doll budget. Anyway, I dreamed I had a doll named, 'Mary Coffee McIntoffee!'" —Virginia Mushkin, N. Y.

"The 'Just Me' name doll is a small bisque with inscription on the back of her neck. In last Doll Talk, you mentioned a 'Mabel' china and I wonder if it could have been a bisque with 'Mabel' marked on the back of the neck."

—Janet Guenther, Calif.

"I have been making some doll furniture and someday hope to own a doll house to fill with my small dolls and collection of miniatures. When my ship comes in, I hope to own some of those marvelous president dolls that I saw in your studio. They are such remarkable likenesses."

—Rementa Foltz, Missouri.

"The Norwegian troll is great. I just love his head of hair and most of all—that tail!"

—Amy Fisher, Pa.

"In Doll Talk you mentioned name-on china dolls. I have a large blonde one with name of 'Mabel' on it. Her head is slightly turned to one side and she has a beautiful face. I enjoy the magazine very much."

—Miss Elsie Smith, Mo.

"When we were married, four years ago, my husband 'inherited' my collection of dolls along with me. In our new home we have built in living room cupboards for displaying them. To us, dolls are representatives of people, with associations such as friendship or travel. I enjoy Doll Talk as only a collector can."

—Mrs. Robert Fridley, Illinois.

"Proudly I say that I have every issue of Doll Talk from the very beginning. I get much pleasure from going back and reading them all over again!"

—Mrs. Joe Wales, Iowa.

"Please send Pinocchio and the lucky witch. If she has any luck, tell her to bring it with her as I could use a barrel of it!"

—Mrs. M. Sheppard, N. Y.

"I just can't resist those Kewpies! I always pretend when I buy another doll that it's to be a gift, but usually—you know what happens"

—Mrs. Orville Carter, Ark.

"Liked Zori so much, but I have hidden her away from Diane for an October birthday. It is hard to save any for a gift as we love to have them out to show and now there is always someone dropping in to see the collection."

—Helen Burhyte, New York.

"The other day a gentleman brought me a soap doll that his wife had had since she was a little girl. The same doll is described in Janet Johl's book, 'Still More About Dolls,' on page 192. On the tag attached to the doll it says, 'My papa will vote for McKinley.' Monarch Soap Co., Lancaster, Pa. My doll has yellowed but other than losing the ends of her feet is in good condition."

—Mary Ruth Winebrenner, Ind.

"French Lilli in her colorful, old world costume, was a perfect Christmas gift for my little niece. She takes every new Kimport Doll to school and there, she says, you should hear the Oh's and Ah's!"

—Stella Masten, Oregon.

"The Korean Gentleman will be quite all right. Maybe at a later date, I can get the Mother. My son brought back one of those long Korean pipes, so he will be interested to see this gentleman."

—Mrs. W. B. Keighton, Pa.

"Thank you for your information on my headless Chinese doll, but how do I know which is the Prince and which the Princess! I need Kimport's well-marked dolls."

—Mrs. Leta Ferrell, D. C.

"I can't stand being out of debt to you, so here goes again. Even though I am putting most of my extra dollars into air conditioning our Texas apartment, I can squeeze a bit along for Kimport as I always have." —Angela Peterson, Texas.

"Carol is delighted with the Coronation Coach set. It is her reward for a very nice solo piano recital."

—Mrs. W. T. Roth, Calif.



SPECIAL SUNDAYS AHEAD

EASTER—Easter Eggs—whether or not we stress the symbolism of eternal life breaking from the darkness of a tomb-like shell. 1¼" wooden eggs from Italy disclose a swaddled bambino with only arms out—not movable, legs as sketched.

No. 754X—75c

EASTER means spring furbelows for the ladies, so doll-maker Ruthellen really went all out with leg-o'-mutton sleeves, with taffetas and trailing skirts and picture brim hats with posies 'n' plumes. She does make the most piquant pretty faces, too, and each Easter Parader poses in stylish stance on a base (no stand needed) 7 inches tall, to give or to keep.

No. 99C—Girl \$4.50

No. 99B—"Gent" \$4.50



FOR MOTHER'S DAY

This dearly dignified Whistler's Mother doll has been in our Kimport line for at least fifteen years. Months often pass without an order coming in on her, and then "a gift for mother" — "to use in a shadow box," or — "this I have long intended to buy." She is lovely; sits 8½ inches high in a ladder back chair.

The head and limbs are of powdered stone composition, oil painted; body constructed to sit gracefully. She is always properly dressed in rich black with really fine laces.

No. 173C\$10.00



SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

KIMPORT DOLLS, Independence, Mo.